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THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

appliques, friezes and borders in multitudinous varieties and of commanding excellence as regards artistic merit. Any furniture manufacturer who wishes to obtain the latest and most artistic of decorative metal enrichments for his furniture cannot do better than put himself in communication with Mr. Geoffroy, whose catalogues illustrate the artistic merits of the goods in a sumptuous manner.

NORTHROP'S STAMPED METAL CEILINGS.

WE have heretofore called attention to Northrop's Stamped Metal Ceilings as an extremely durable, incombustible and sanitary material for interior decoration. These ceilings are composed of adjustable panels, or plates, with their accessories of moulding, borders, cornices, etc., which are made of mild steel, zinc, copper, and in some cases tin plate, embossed with beautiful designs in relief, the designs being such as will harmonize with all of the prevailing styles of decoration. Walls, frieze, cornice, and ceiling are sheathed with these beautiful plates, whose heat and economic qualities render them an invaluable addition to the decorative materials of the age.

We publish two panel designs in the Empire style, which are exceedingly decorative. Being very light, they can be placed in position by being nailed upon joists, the overlapping ends of the adjoining panels forming a perfect seam, which can be rendered air-tight, if necessary. The many great practical advantages that belong to this class of decorative work has led to its widespread use in churches, halls, schools, business buildings and residences. The choicest of designs can be produced in the embossed metal in a sufficient variety to meet many different tastes, sizes and purposes. The extraordinary ease with which metal ceilings can be put up by decorators or carpenters, is another reason for their widespread use, and their sanitary qualities recommend them for use in schools, hospitals, etc. In addition to the large number of practical designs kept in stock, suitable for any kind of building, special designs are made to order.

Mr. Henry S. Northrop, of 30 Rose St., New York, is the manufacturer of these stamped metal ceilings, and he employs a staff of competent men to put up and decorate his ceilings in the vicinity of New York. It is not, however, necessary to employ special men for the work, as any painstaking carpenter or paper-hanger can do a very satisfactory job. The only tools needed are a hammer, a saw for the furring, a chalk line and a tinner's hand shears.

Mr. Northrop has recently published a catalogue, illustrating the extensive use of his metal ceilings in public buildings, schools, etc., which also contains a great number of the designs kept in stock, a copy of which can be had on application.

JAMES M. STOUT.

FURNITURE and decorative woodwork are very often trimmed with metal and wood beading, which adds materially to the value of the finished article. Mr. James M. Stout, of 74 West 23rd st., New York, is a manufacturer of carved classic beadings, fretwork, transoms, and spiral cut work of every description. His wood beadings come in long lengths, and are made of different woods; the diameters vary 1-16 inch from 3-16 inch upwards. Special designs are made as required. He makes a specialty of metal beading in polished brass, oxidized, mat gilt, pearl, or other finish as desired.

He is introducing a decorative novelty in the shape of imported Spanish tiles for interior decoration. These tiles are made of cardboard, and have designs in Persian and Moorish ornament in green,

yellow, chocolate, blue, and white combinations, most of the designs being taken from Persian and Moorish patterns. The tiles have a high glaze, and are waterproof, and are just the thing for decorating bathrooms and hallway dadoes. He also does a large business in real flooring, roofing and wall tiles.

ADAMANT PLASTER.

Office of
COL. SINN'S NEW PARK THEATER,
Brooklyn.

Col. William E. Sinn, } Managers.
Mr. Walter L. Sinn, }

Managers' Office, Brooklyn, N. Y., Oct. 21st, 1892.

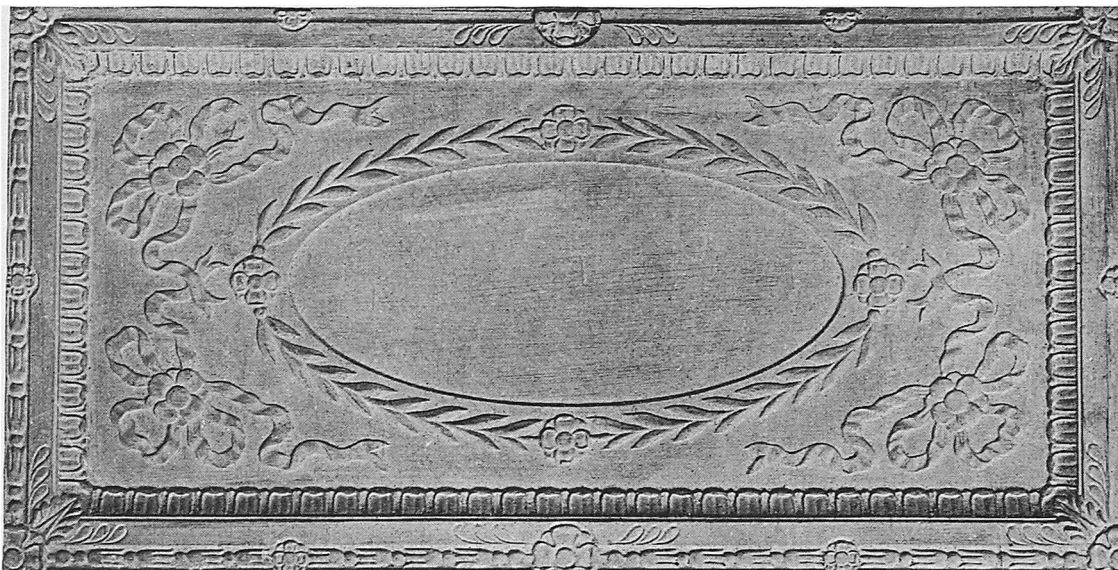
Mr. Frank W. Sanger,
No. 1432 Broadway,
New York City.

My Dear Mr. Sanger:—

Your favor of the 19th inst. received. The Adamant Plaster has given us every satisfaction, and were we to build again, would use it. We have yet the first defect to find in it. I would suggest to you, though, to use wire lathing. I was told, when we

necessarily compelled, by reason of modern competition and the increased demand, to be more of a machine than an individual, yet there is no reason why quality should not go hand in hand with quantity, and the demand for new designs in this department is no less urgent than that for cabinet work. The new styles of furniture that are constantly coming to the front have brass work to correspond in the form of handles, locks, hinges, escutcheons, etc., in the Louis Seize and Empire styles, and sideboard sets of brass work in the Italian Renaissance style. There are designs in the Louis Quinze style, in which a ribbon embraces the scrollwork, forming a pretty feature. The sideboard drawers are finished with handles in the form of dolphins, and in studying work of this character we can perceive a great field for original design.

The above remarks are made to call attention to the fine art castings and metal beading manufactured by John S. Brown & Co., of Jersey City, N. J. Their New York office, situated 4 West 22nd St., is under the management of Mr. Chas. Reeves, who is exhibiting their fine art castings, made from patterns only, by a new process under pressure, by which the cost of hand labor is saved. They manufacture a superior quality of metal beading for the use of furniture manufacturers and woodworkers in



EMPIRE PANEL IN NORTHROP'S STAMPED METAL CEILINGS.

were rebuilding, to do so, and have not regretted the extra cost.

Yours very truly,

WALTER L. SINN.

Dictated.

OXFORD MFG. CO.

NO firm in its line has been more successful than the Oxford Mfg. Co. of Chicago. It is not the result of accident. Furnishing sewing machines direct to the consumer without having to pay middlemen's profits has enabled them to send out their popular machines at figures lower than it seems possible to construct them. Thousands of testimonials show that their customers are more than satisfied. Nearly 2,000 machines a month is their present record. Any reader of this paper can get free their new illustrated catalogue by simply writing for it.

BROWN & COMPANY'S METAL BEADING.

DECORATIVE metal work in the present age is produced in a wholesale manner by the various methods of casting and stamping, but such material, a few centuries ago, was a part of the occupation of the goldsmith, who was equally skilled in works of brass and bronze as in the more costly productions of his art. Although the brass worker of to-day is

general, which is made in any finish or color desired, and at such reduced prices as to admit of liberal use. This beading is turned, bored, annealed and lacquered, and can be also had in electro finish in gold or silver.

The firm are prepared to furnish metallic productions in bronze or brass in designs to harmonize with any given style of furniture.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The Boston Herald, referring to *THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER*, states that our magazine is one which it is wise for every decorator and house furnisher to consider. "Its papers," says the same authority, "are always contributed by those who understand thoroughly what they are writing about, and the innumerable suggestions never fail to be both timely and effective."

MESSRS. CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS are preparing a novel and interesting contribution to the World's Fair in the Exhibition number of *Scribner's Magazine*, to be published simultaneously with the opening of the Exposition in Chicago. Their plan is to publish the best example of an American magazine which they can make, and such will be their exhibition at the World's Fair, in connection with the originals of the illustrations, MSS., blocks, etc. Some of the authors write of the Fair itself, but all



select their own subject; a great part of the number, in fact, is made up of short stories. Besides the usual illustrations which accompany the text there will be some 12 or 15 full page pictures, contributed by leading artists, which will be inserted as examples of their work, without text. These pictures have been drawn specially for this number. The beauties of the text will be largely increased, as well as the illustrations, and the appearance of the number is likely to be looked for with eagerness by all readers interested in the American magazines.

THE most significant and the only full utterance in the late national canvass was by Mr. Blaine in his article entitled "The Presidential Campaign of 1892," in the *North American Review* for last November. He speaks with vigor, making some points that are entirely new in the discussion of the issues, and his article is marked with that purity of style for which Mr. Blaine was distinguished.

THE special church number of *Architecture and Building* is a sort of Jubilee issue of our architectural contemporary, which is published by Wm. T. Comstock, 23 Warren street, New York. The large number of church designs in this special issue represent every style of church building used by the different denominations in this country, from the accepted design of the great Episcopal Cathedral to the country meeting house.

Modern Christian worship is no longer processional in character, and the gorgeous rituals of the past that appealed to the eye of the worshipper have, under the influence of freedom in religious thought, given place to the sermon that appeals more decisively to the enlarged mental faculties of the age. This change of method in worship has caused modern churches to take the form of semi-circular audience rooms, of which many artistic compromises between tradition and modern requirements are published. By far the greater number of the plates exemplify not only the special use of the church

building proper, but also the fact that the church in America is the social center of the community, and the various society rooms, from the Sunday School to the church kitchen, are not forgotten.

To the architect and student of church architecture this special issue of the *Architecture and Building* will prove extremely valuable. The price is \$1.

"JAPAN in Art and Industry, with a Glance at Japanese Manners and Customs," by Felix Régamy, has been translated and published by Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons of this city.

This is an artist's view of Japan, in which Japanese art work has chief consideration. As is usually the case with imitators in all art products, the imitator fails to reproduce the beauties of the original, but in the case of Japan, although it is conceded that Japan borrowed her principles of art and processes of manufacture from China, her art work goes far beyond that of the Chinese in elegance and originality. It is a case of initiator and developer. The initiator has become fixed in grooves of undeviating formality, wherein all memory of the original impulse faded, but the initiated, on the contrary, turned the invention put into their hands to admirable account, and Japan, with her incomparable faculties of comparison, her invaluable sureness of taste, her exquisite feeling of nature, has shown the world an example of the pupil developing his art far beyond the limits of his master's lesson, and has been able to create an art all her own—a National art.

The writer speaks with great enthusiasm of art in Japan, and emphasizes the fact that throughout this hospitable country, art meets the eye everywhere—it scents the very air you breathe—whereas China is a country hostile to art, and the painter's easel and the photographer's materials are objects of terror on the banks of the Yellow River, while in Japan the artist will receive the most hospitable reception, and is at liberty to paint everywhere to his heart's content.

The author speaks of Hokusai, who was born in 1760, and who lived to the age of 70, was one of the greatest of Japanese painters. In the translation of a biographical note written by this master, we apprehend his true insight as an artist. After spending a life in developing his powers, he states that at the age of 73 he "came near to the apprehension of the true form of birds and flowers and plants, etc., consequently, at the age of 80, I should have made much progress; at 90 years, I should have touched the bottom of things; at the age of 100, I shall have decidedly attained a state superior, undefinable; and at 110 years, be it a point, be it a line, all will be living." Hokusai, in color and execution exhibit a force and splendor and uncomparable resolution. It seems as if his brush grew immaterial, so well does it follow in a sort of voluptuous delight the amorous movements of the thought.

The critic goes on to say that "Hokusai had the ingenious soul to soar above the world; he had the refinement and happy thought that come only to imaginations lost in colors, in light and in truth."

Considerable attention is given to Kiosai, who died recently, having hardly passed his 50th year. He was a great caricaturist, and passed many years of his life in prison, on account of the satire that prevailed his work. Different chapters are devoted to artificers in stone and wood, workers in metal, enamellers, ceramics, textile fabrics, lacquers, the graphic arts, including decorated leathers. A great amount of valuable information is given as to the various processes in Japanese decorative art.

Other chapters relate to food preparation, the production of drinks, the construction of Japanese houses, and the manners and customs of the people. Miscellaneous notes and a short vocabulary terminate the volume. Every artist, amateur, decorator and designer should possess a copy of this valuable work. It is a book that will decorate any library. It is artistically bound in cloth, with a Japanese decoration in silver stamped on the cover, and contains 100 illustrations by the author.

* * * BOOKS * * *

—FOR—

Architects, Artists, Designers and Decorators.

The following Books will be sent, postage paid, on receipt of price. Address,

THE ART-TRADES PUBLISHING & PRINTING CO., 150 Nassau Street, New York.

Polychromatic Ornamentation,
By A. Racinet. Containing innumerable designs in all styles of ancient and modern historic art. In two series.

First Series contains 100 plates in chromo-lithography. Price, \$40.00.

Second Series contains 120 plates in chromo-lithography. Price, \$53.40.

A Grammar of Ornament,
By Owen Jones. Containing 112 colored plates in vivid colors, representing the various styles of ornament. Price, \$35.00.

Specimens of Architecture and Sculpture,
By M. A. Raguenet. In 20 volumes. Price, each volume, \$4.00.

Ornamental Treasures,
A popular collection of 85 colored plates, illustrating the Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek, Roman, Pompeian, Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Persian, Arabian, Moresque, Turkish, Celtic, Byzantine, Middle Ages, Italian, French, and German Renaissance, and the styles of the 17th and 18th centuries. Price, \$12.00.

Figure Ornaments in the Cupola and Halls of the Imperial Court Museum of Natural History at Vienna.

In two series, each containing 28 plates and portfolio. The figure sculpture in this work is of commanding elegance. Price, each series, \$8.70.

Nature in Ornament,
By Lewis F. Day. Containing 123 full-page plates and 193 illustrations in the text, showing examples of decorative treatment of motives from nature in all styles of decorative art. Illustrated by Egyptian temple sculptures, Assyrian wall decoration, Coptic embroidery, Chinese porcelain painting, Hindoo stone carving, Painted stuffs from Peru, Greek scroll ornament, sculptures and mosaic, Gothic traceries, Celtic interlacements, Heraldic ornament, Mohammedan wood carving, Rococo scroll carving, Pompeian wall painting, Persian carpets, Tudor carvings, Italian bronzes, Japanese diapers, Sicilian silk patterns and modern designs in silks, cretonnes, wall papers, carvings, etc., etc.

248 pages. 12mo. Cloth. Gilt. Price, \$5.00.

Text Books of Ornamental Design,
By Lewis F. Day. No. 1, The Anatomy of Pattern (35 full-page illustrations); No. 2, The Planning of Ornament (38 full-page illustrations); No. 3, The Application of Ornament (43 full-page illustrations). Bound in cloth. In one volume. Price, \$4.50.

Lessons in Decorative Design,
By Frank G. Jackson. Mr. Jackson is the second master in the Birmingham Municipal School of Art. This admirable work has been prepared to assist students in their early decorative attempts by showing them the constructive origin of ornamentation, and the profuse illustrations make clear the guiding principles and orderly methods that underlie true decoration of every kind. It is an admirable work. Price, \$3.00.

Das Mobil,
By Messrs. E. Lambert and A. Stahl, architects. An illustrated history of fash-